

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 198975
ORIGIN AF-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /011 R

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DRAFTED BY:AF/E:PGSMITH:JJ

APPROVED BY:AF/E:RPOST

-----117325 201012Z /21

P 200513Z AUG 77

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY KINSHASA PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY KIGALI PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM PRIORITY

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FOLLOWING REPEAT NAIROBI 10408 SENT ACTION SECSTATE BONN AUG 16.
QUOTE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE NAIROBI 10408

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: CARR, UG

SUBJECT: THREE AMERICANS REPORTED DETAINED IN UGANDA

1. ASSOCIATED PRESS STRINGER IN NAIROBI LEARNED FROM UGANDAN
REFUGEE THAT THREE AMERICANS WERE REPORTEDLY ARRESTED IN
KAMPALA ON AUGUST 4 AND ARE APPARENTLY STILL DETAINED.

2. ACCORDING TO THE REFUGEE SOURCE, WHO WAS A DESK CLERK
AT THE FAIRWAY HOTEL IN KAMPALA, THE THREE AMERICANS WERE:

RICHARD SANKY, AGE ABOUT 26

GEORGE MILTRON SMITH, SOMEWHAT OLDER

AUSTIN BROWN, SOMEWHAT OLDER

NO FURTHER IDENTIFYING DETAILS AVAILABLE.

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3. AMERICANS TRAVELING IN JEEP-TYPE NON-UGANDAN VEHICLE
CHECKED INTO HOTEL EVENING AUGUST 3 AND WERE ASSIGNED TO
ROOMS 1619 AND 1620. (THIS MAY BE GARBLE -- COULD BE 16, 19
AND 20). THEY APPARENTLY SPENT THE NIGHT WITH THREE LOCAL
GIRLS. THE FOLLOWING MORNING, TWO STATE RESEARCH BUREAU
PERSONNEL WHO LIVE IN THE HOTEL IN ROOMS 51 AND 71, NAMED

HARUNA SEBI AND ABUD OGWALA, QUESTIONED THE DESK CLERK ABOUT THE THREE MEN. THE SRB AGENTS THEN WENT TO THE ROOMS OF THE AMERICANS, WHERE THE GIRLS WERE EVIDENTLY STILL WITH THEM. THE AMERICANS WERE TAKEN AWAY TO AN UNKNOWN DESTINATION IN A RANGE ROVER, REGISTRATION NUMBER UVS-560.

4. THE DESK CLERK WAS SUBSEQUENTLY PICKED UP AND DETAINED A FEW DAYS. HE WAS TAKEN TO MAKINDYE PRISON AND SAYS THE GRAPEVINE THRERE INDICATED THE AMERICANS WERE NOT RPT NOT BROUGHT TO THAT LOCATION. AFTER THE DESK CLERK WAS RELEASED, HE FOUND THAT THE JEEP-TYPE VEHICLE IN WHICH THE AMERICANS WERE TRAVELING HAD BEEN TAKEN AWAY, BUT LOCAL PEOPLE SAID THE AMERICANS THEMSELVES HAD NOT REAPPEARED. THE DESK CLERK ARRIVED IN NAIROBI ON AUGUST 13 AS A REFUGEE, SINCE HIS DETENTION MADE HIM FEAR FOR HIS LIFE.

5. WE ARE ATTEMPTING TO PASS SOME OF FOREGOING TO FRG EMBASSY KAMPALA BY PHONE. REQUEST AMEMBASSY BONN PROVIDE DETAILS ABOVE TO FOREIGN MINISTRY FOR TRANSMISSION TO FRG EMBASSY KAMPALA.

6. AP NAIROBI DOES NOT PLAN TO FILE STORY, AT LEAST FOR A COUPLE DAYS, TO ENABLE QUIET INQUIRIES TO BE MADE.

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 20-Aug-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977STATE198975
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: AF/E:PGSMITH:JJ
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770301-0646
Format: TEL
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
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Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770840/aaaabhmz.tel
Line Count: 95
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 97b38457-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ORIGIN AF
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 07-Feb-2005 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 1538040
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: THREE AMERICANS REPORTED DETAINED IN UGANDA
TAGS: CARR, UG, (SANKY, RICHARD), (SMITH, RICHARD SANKY), (BROWN, AUSTIN)
To: KINSHASA KIGALI MULTIPLE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/97b38457-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009